



## HYDROFLUROIC ACID (HF) EMERGENCY PROCEDURE

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Please post these emergency procedures in work areas where HF is used. Any skin tissue or eye contact with HF must receive immediate first aid and medical treatment. Due to delayed response to HF exposure, even if the injury appears minor and no pain is felt, seek medical treatment immediately.

In the event of HF exposure, immediately start first aid treatment to prevent burns and serious injury. **Call 911 and Campus Security at 250-721-7599.**

### **Skin Contact:**

1. Immediately proceed to the nearest emergency shower and rinse the affected area thoroughly with water for maximum of 5 minutes to not delay application of calcium gluconate.
2. Remove all contaminated clothing while continuing to flush the area with water.
3. Massage calcium gluconate gel (Calgonate) into the affected area. Be sure to wear nitrile gloves (double glove is best) while applying to prevent possible secondary HF burns. Apply the gel frequently and massage continuously until pain and/or redness disappears or emergency medical assistance arrives.
4. Continue applying calcium gluconate gel (Calgonate) to the affected area while transporting to the hospital.

### **Eye Contact:**

1. Do not apply calcium gluconate gel to eyes.
2. Immediately proceed to the nearest eyewash station and flush eyes with water for at least 15 minutes. Ensure eyelids are open for thorough flushing.
3. Continue washing the affected area until emergency medical assistance arrives.

### **Ingestion:**

1. Do not induce vomiting.
2. Drink large quantities of milk, water, or milk of magnesia.

### **Inhalation:**

1. Immediately move to an area with fresh air.

### **Note:**

- To ensure medical personal are aware of the hazards and treatment of any HF exposure, bring a copy of the SDS sheet and the *HF Safe Work Procedure*.

For more information, please contact OHSE at [ohs@uvic.ca](mailto:ohs@uvic.ca) or 250-721-8971